IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Application

Applicant(s): Fujino el al.
Docket No.: JA9-99-165
Serial No.: 09/669,598
Filing Date: September 26, 2000
Group: 2178
Examiner: Cesar B. Paula

> I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited on this date with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
>
> Signature: _____ Date: August 18, 2005

Title: Electronic Form Acquiring Method, Electronic Form System, and Storage Medium for Storing Electronic Form Acquiring Program

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TRANSMITTAL OF APPEAL BRIEF

Mail Stop Appeal Brief - Patents
Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith are the following documents relating to the above-identified patent application:

1. Appeal Brief; and

2. Copy of Notice of Appeal, filed on June 16, 2005, with copy of stamped return postcard indicating receipt of Notice by PTO on June 20, 2005.

There is an additional fee of $500 due in conjunction with this submission under 37 CFR §1.17(c). Please charge **IBM Corporation's Deposit Account No. 50-0510** the amount of $500 to cover this fee. In the event of non-payment or improper payment of a required fee, the Commissioner is authorized to charge or to credit **IBM Corporation's Deposit Account No. 50-0510** as required to correct the error. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Respectfully,

Date: August 18, 2005

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Docket No.: JA9-99-165

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APPEAL BRIEF

Mail Stop Appeal Brief - Patents
20 Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

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  Applicants hereby appeal the final rejection dated February 17, 2005, of claims 1 through 25 of the above-identified patent application.

REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

30   The present application is assigned to International Business Machines Corporation as evidenced by an assignment recorded on September 26, 2000 in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at Reel 011181, Frame 0723. The assignee, International Business Machines Corporation is the real party in interest.

35 ## RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

  There are no related appeals or interferences.

STATUS OF CLAIMS

  Claims 1 through 25 are pending in the above-identified patent
40 application. Claim 19 remains objected to due to indicated informalities. Claim 20

remains rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Broomhall et al. (United States Patent Number 6,292,904), claims 1-3, 5-7, 9-14, 16-18, and 22-24 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Broomhall et al., and further in view of "Using Paradox 5 for Windows" Special Edition (hereinafter, Paradox), Que,

5   1994, pp. 133-139 and 526-529, and claims 4, 15, and 21 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Broomhall in view of Paradox, and further in view of Atlas et al. (United States Patent Number 5,848,413). The Examiner indicated that claims 8, 19, and 25 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims.

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STATUS OF AMENDMENTS

Claims 4-8, 18, and 19 were amended in the Amendment and Response to Office Action dated April 18, 2005 to correct typographical errors. In the Advisory Action dated May 17, 2005, the Examiner indicated that the cited amendments would not

15   be entered for the purpose of appeal.

SUMMARY OF CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

The present invention is directed to providing a predetermined user with a privilege for a delegated application processing without providing the user with the

20   application requester's log-in password. (Pages 17-18.) The application requester specifies a form class for identifying a form that requests a delegated application, both starting and ending dates for identifying a term of the requested delegated application together with a proxy applicant user ID that specifies a proxy applicant requested for the delegated application, then registers those items in the electronic form system. (Page 23:

25   text associated with FIG. 15.) The electronic form system then registers those items in a proxy applicant definition table together with the application requester user ID. The proxy applicant can thus enter the form submission mode of the application requester. (Page 23.) In the form submission mode of the application requester, forms that can be submitted by the proxy applicant are selected according to the information of the form

30   class, the starting date, the ending date, etc. registered beforehand and displayed as a list. (Pages 21-22.) If the proxy applicant selects one of those forms, the proxy applicant can

obtain a blank form of the selected electronic form and such user data as, e.g., the name, the user ID, and the belonging organization, are filled in the blank form automatically. (Page 34.) The proxy applicant thus fills other necessary items in the form and applies for the form instead of the application requester.

STATEMENT OF GROUNDS OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL

Claim 19 is objected to due to indicated informalities. Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Broomhall et al., claims 1-3, 5-7, 9-14, 16-18, and 22-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Broomhall et al., and further in view of Paradox, and claims 4, 15, and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Broomhall in view of Paradox, and further in view of Atlas et al.

ARGUMENT

Formal Objections

Claim 19 was objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being in improper form because a multiple dependent claim should refer to other claims in the alternative only, and/or, cannot depend from any other multiple dependent claim. In the Advisory Action, the Examiner asserts that the amendment changes the scope of the claim and that it therefore cannot be entered since this amendment requires further search and/or consideration.

First, Appellants note that, in the final Office Action dated February 17, 2005, the Examiner indicated that claim 19, which was dependent on claims 12-18, would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. In the Amendment and Response to Office Action dated April 18, 2005, Appellants proposed to amend claim 19 to be dependent on "any of claims 12 to 14, 17, and 18." Thus, following entry of the amendments, claim 19 would refer to other claims in the alternative only, and would not depend from any other multiple dependent claim. In addition, the Examiner has already indicated that claim 19 would be allowable if written in independent form with any of claims 12 to 18. Thus, claim 19 should be allowable if written in independent form with any of claims 12-14,

17, and 18, since this is a subset of the claims that are allowable; contrary to the Examiner's assertion, no additional search should be required.

Since the Examiner has not entered the amendment, Appellants propose to resolve the cited objection following resolution of the appeal.

Independent Claims 1-3, 9-14 and 20

Independent claims 1-3 and 9-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Broomhall et al., and further in view of Paradox. Independent claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Broomhall et al. Regarding claim 1, the Examiner asserts that Broomhall teaches that "the sponsor requests the external user's id, and password --- *form of requesting a delegated application* --- by inputting personal information, such as name, telephone number, etc. into a form."

Appellants note that Broomhall is directed to "providing secure user account identifiers and passwords to facilitate *sharing by users of data* between a secure internal server and an external server accessible over the Internet." (See, Abstract; emphasis added.) While Broomhall discloses *sharing data* by providing a user ID and password to a user, Broomhall does not address the issue of *delegating an application* to a *proxy*. The present disclosure teaches that, in the prior art, "a proxy user *submits a non-electronic form on behalf of another user*" and "the proxy user *fills necessary items in the form according to the request from the requester* and *files the form to a predetermined place*." (Page 1, second paragraph; emphasis added.) In the context of the present invention, the proxy user submits an electronic form on behalf of another user and fills necessary items in the form according to the request from the requester and files the form to a predetermined place. Broomhall, however, does not disclose or suggest a *proxy* as defined in the present invention, and does not disclose or suggest a proxy that submits an electronic form on behalf of another user and fills necessary items in the form according to the request from the requester.

In addition, the Examiner appears to equate the ID and password assigned by the sponsor with form condition data. The present disclosure, for example, teaches that "a concept that includes form ID for *identifying a specific form uniquely* and *data for identifying such a predetermined form group as a form class*, as well as *data for*

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identifying such a predetermined form as a conditional expression in which 'XXX' is set as the first three digits and a number of 22 or under is set in the lower two digits of the form ID." (Page 4, last paragraph.) Broomhall, however, does not disclose or suggest *form condition data* as defined in the present invention. Neither Broomhall nor Paradox disclose or suggest a concept that includes form ID for *identifying a specific form uniquely* and *data for identifying such a predetermined form group as a form class*, as well as *data for identifying such a predetermined form as a conditional expression.*

Independent claims 1, 2, 9, 10, 12, and 13 require registering or managing *form condition data* that identifies a form of requesting a *delegated application* and proxy applicant specification data that specifies a *proxy applicant* who is requested for said delegated application respectively. Independent claims 3, 11 and 14 require registering or managing delegation term condition data that identifies a term of requesting a delegated application beforehand so as to be related to application requester specification data that specifies an application requester and proxy applicant specification data that specifies a *proxy* applicant who is requested for said *delegated application.* Independent claim 20 requires *form condition data* that identifies a form of requesting a *delegated application,* and proxy applicant specification data that specifies a *proxy* applicant who is requested for said *delegated application.*

Thus, Broomhall and Paradox, alone or in combination, do not disclose or suggest registering or managing form condition data that identifies a form of requesting a delegated application and proxy applicant specification data that specifies a proxy applicant who is requested for said delegated application respectively, as required by independent claims 1, 2, 9, 10, 12, and 13, do not disclose or suggest registering or managing delegation term condition data that identifies a term of requesting a delegated application beforehand so as to be related to application requester specification data that specifies an application requester and proxy applicant specification data that specifies a proxy applicant who is requested for said delegated application, as required by independent claims 3, 11 and 14, and do not disclose or suggest form condition data that identifies a form of requesting a delegated application, and proxy applicant specification data that specifies a proxy applicant who is requested for said delegated application, as required by independent claim 20.

Claims 6, 17 and 23

Claims 6, 17, and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Broomhall et al., and further in view Paradox. Regarding claim 6, the Examiner acknowledges that Broomhall fails to explicitly disclose said list of available

5 electronic forms is decided according to an organization to which said application requester belongs, but asserts that it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have displayed the list according to an organization.

Claims 6, 17, and 23 require wherein said list of available electronic forms

10 is decided according to an organization to which said application requester belongs. Appellants maintain that deciding the listing of available electronic forms according to an organization to which said application requester belongs is not obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art and that the prior art actually teaches away from the present invention by teaching to list forms according to other characteristics, e.g. by type of form,

15 as is well known to a person of ordinary skill in the art.

Thus, Broomhall et al. and Paradox, alone or in combination, do not disclose or suggest wherein said list of available electronic forms is decided according to an organization to which said application requester belongs, as required by claims 6, 17, and 23.

20 Claims 7, 18 and 24

Claims 7, 18, and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Broomhall et al., and further in view of Paradox. Regarding claim 7, the Examiner asserts that a password indicates that the user system access is enabled to the external user as delegated by the sponsor.

25 Claims 7, 18, and 24 require wherein each of said electronic forms managed by said electronic form system is related to a delegated application flag indicating whether or not said delegated application is enabled; and said electronic form is available when said delegated application flag indicates "enable." As would be apparent to a person of ordinary skill in the art, a password is not equivalent to a flag.

30 Also, contrary to the Examiner's assertion, a password does not indicate that the user system access is enabled to the external user; the indication that the user system access is

enabled to the external user only occurs when the user enters a password that matches the required password.

Thus, Broomhall et al. and Paradox, alone or in combination, do not disclose or suggest wherein each of said electronic forms managed by said electronic form system is related to a delegated application flag indicating whether or not said delegated application is enabled; and said electronic form is available when said delegated application flag indicates "enable," as required by claims 7, 18, and 24.

Additional Cited References

Paradox was also cited by the Examiner for its disclosure of allowing the definition of auxiliary passwords. Appellants note that Paradox does not address the issue of *delegating an application* to a *proxy*. Paradox also does not disclose or suggest *form condition data as* defined in the present invention.

Thus, Paradox does not disclose or suggest registering or managing form condition data that identifies a form of requesting a delegated application and proxy applicant specification data that specifies a proxy applicant who is requested for said delegated application respectively, as required by independent claims 1, 2, 9, 10, 12, and 13, does not disclose or suggest registering or managing delegation term condition data that identifies a term of requesting a delegated application beforehand so as to be related to application requester specification data that specifies an application requester and proxy applicant specification data that specifies a proxy applicant who is requested for said delegated application, as required by independent claims 3, 11 and 14, does not disclose or suggest form condition data that identifies a form of requesting a delegated application, and proxy applicant specification data that specifies a proxy applicant who is requested for said delegated application, as required by independent claim 20, does not disclose or suggest wherein said list of available electronic forms is decided according to an organization to which said application requester belongs, as required by claims 6, 17, and 23, and does not disclose or suggest wherein each of said electronic forms managed by said electronic form system is related to a delegated application flag indicating whether or not said delegated application is enabled; and said electronic form is available when said delegated application flag indicates "enable," as required by claims 7, 18, and 24.

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Atlas et al. was cited by the Examiner for its disclosure of automatically providing completions of form fields. Appellants note that United States Patent Number 5,848,413 (Atlas et al.) and the present patent application were commonly owned at the time of the invention and, since Atlas et al. only qualifies as prior art under 35 U.S.C.

5 §102(e), Atlas et al. does not qualify as prior art under 35 U.S.C. §103 (see, 35 U.S.C. §103(c)). Applicants also note that Atlas does not address the issue of *delegating an application* to a *proxy*. Atlas also does not disclose or suggest *form condition data as* defined in the present invention.

Thus, Atlas et al. do not disclose or suggest registering or managing form

10 condition data that identifies a form of requesting a delegated application and proxy applicant specification data that specifies a proxy applicant who is requested for said delegated application respectively, as required by independent claims 1, 2, 9, 10, 12, and 13, do not disclose or suggest registering or managing delegation term condition data that identifies a term of requesting a delegated application beforehand so as to be related to

15 application requester specification data that specifies an application requester and proxy applicant specification data that specifies a proxy applicant who is requested for said delegated application, as required by independent claims 3, 11 and 14, do not disclose or suggest form condition data that identifies a form of requesting a delegated application, and proxy applicant specification data that specifies a proxy applicant who is requested

20 for said delegated application, as required by independent claim 20, do not disclose or suggest wherein said list of available electronic forms is decided according to an organization to which said application requester belongs, as required by claims 6, 17, and 23, and do not disclose or suggest wherein each of said electronic forms managed by said electronic form system is related to a delegated application flag indicating whether or not

25 said delegated application is enabled; and said electronic form is available when said delegated application flag indicates "enable," as required by claims 7, 18, and 24.
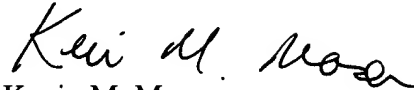
Conclusion

The rejections of the cited claims under sections 102 and 103 in view of Broomhall et al., Paradox, and Atlas et al., alone or in any combination, are therefore

30 believed to be improper and should be withdrawn. The remaining rejected dependent claims are believed allowable for at least the reasons identified above with respect to the

independent claims.

The attention of the Examiner and the Appeal Board to this matter is appreciated.

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Respectfully,

Date: August 18, 2005

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APPENDIX

1.   An electronic form acquiring method employed for an electronic form system that certifies a user, said method comprising the steps of:

5   (a) registering form condition data that identifies a form of requesting a delegated application and delegation term condition data that identifies a term of requesting said delegated application beforehand so as to be related to application requester specification data that specifies an application requester and proxy applicant specification data that specifies a proxy applicant who is requested for said delegated

10   application respectively;

        (b) receiving an input for specifying said application requester specification data and accessing a first electronic form by said proxy applicant;

        (c) inspecting whether or not a current date adapts to said delegation term condition data registered so as to be related to said application requester specification

15   data and said proxy applicant specification data;

        (d) inspecting whether or not said first electronic form coincides with said form condition data registered so as to be related to said application requester specification data and said proxy applicant specification data; and

        (e) enabling said first electronic form to be acquired if results of said

20   inspections performed in (c) and (d) are acceptable.

2.   An electronic form acquiring method employed for an electronic form system that certifies a user, said method comprising the steps of:

        (a) registering form condition data that identifies a form of requesting a

25   delegated application beforehand so as to be related to application requester specification data that specifies an application requester and proxy applicant specification data that specifies a proxy applicant who is requested for said delegated application;

        (b) receiving an input for specifying said application requester specification data and accessing a first electronic form by said proxy applicant;

30   (c) inspecting whether or not said first electronic form adapts to said form condition data registered so as to be related to said application requester specification

data and said proxy applicant specification data; and

   (d) enabling said first electronic form to be acquired if a result of said inspection performed in (c) is acceptable.

3.   An electronic form acquiring method employed for an electronic form system that certifies a user, said method comprising the steps of:

   (a) registering delegation term condition data that identifies a term of requesting a delegated application beforehand so as to be related to application requester specification data that specifies an application requester and proxy applicant specification data that specifies a proxy applicant who is requested for said delegated application;

   (b) receiving an input for specifying said application requester specification data and accessing a first electronic form by said proxy applicant;

   (c) inspecting whether or not the current date adapts to said delegation term condition data registered so as to be related to said application requester specification data and said proxy applicant specification data;

   (d) enabling said first electronic form to be acquired if a result of said inspection performed in (c) is acceptable.

4.   An electronic form acquiring method in accordance with any of Claims 1 to 3; wherein said method further includes a step of filling personal data of said application requester in said acquired first electronic form automatically.

5.   An electronic form acquiring method in accordance with any of Claims 1 to 4; wherein said method further includes a step of displaying a list of available electronic forms.

6.   An electronic form acquiring method in accordance with Claim 5; wherein said list of available electronic forms is decided according to an organization to which said application requester belongs.

7.   An electronic form acquiring method in accordance with Claim 5; wherein each of said electronic forms managed by said electronic form system is related to a

delegated application flag indicating whether or not said delegated application is enabled; and said electronic form is available when said delegated application flag indicates "enable."

5   8.   An electronic form acquiring method in accordance with any of Claims 1 to 7; wherein an approver related to said electronic form receives a notice recognizable that said application has been submitted and said application requester receives a notice recognizable that said application has been submitted by said proxy applicant when predetermined items are filled in said acquired electronic form and an input for directing
10   submission of said application is made.

9.   An electronic form system, including:
          (a) a directory manager that certifies a user;
          (b) a proxy applicant definition table that manages form condition data
15   that identifies a form of requesting a delegated application and delegation term condition data that identifies a term of requesting said delegated application so as to be related to application requester specification data that specifies an application requester and proxy applicant specification data that specifies a proxy applicant who is requested for said delegated application;
20   (c) a blank form collector, which acquires data that can specify said first electronic form when;
          (c1) said blank collector is activated in response to an input for specifying said application requester specification data and accessing said first electronic form by said proxy applicant;
25   (c2) inspecting whether or not the current date coincides with said delegation term condition data registered so as to be related to said application requester specification data and said proxy applicant specification data;
          (c3) inspecting whether or not said first electronic form coincides with said form condition data registered so as to be related to said application requester
30   specification data and said proxy applicant specification data; and
          (c4) results of said inspections of said delegation term condition data and

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said form condition data are acceptable.

10.   An electronic form system, which can certify a user, including:

(a) a directory manager that certifies a user;

(b) a proxy applicant definition table that manages form condition data that identifies a form of requesting a delegated application so as to be related to application requester specification data that specifies an application requester and proxy applicant specification data that specifies a proxy applicant who is requested for said delegated application;

(c) a blank form collector, which acquires data that can specify said first electronic form when;

(c1) said blank collector is activated in response to an input for specifying said application requester specification data and accessing said first electronic form by said proxy applicant;

(c2) inspecting whether or not said first electronic form adapts to said form condition data registered so as to be related to said application requester specification data and said proxy applicant specification data; and

(c3) a result of said inspection of said delegation term condition data is acceptable.

11.   An electronic form system, including:

(a) a directory manager that certifies a user;

(b) a proxy applicant definition table that manages delegation term condition data that identifies a term of requesting a delegated application so as to be related to application requester specification data that specifies an application requester and proxy applicant specification data that specifies a proxy applicant who is requested for said delegated application;

(c) a blank form collector, which acquires data that can specify said first electronic form when;

(c1) said blank collector is activated in response to an input for specifying said application requester specification data and accessing said first electronic form by said proxy applicant;

(c2) inspecting whether or not the current date coincides with said delegation term condition data registered so as to be related to said application requester specification data and said proxy applicant specification data; and

(c3) a result of said inspection of said form condition data is acceptable.

12.   A storage medium for storing a program that acquires an electronic form, said program being executed in an electronic form system for certifying a user and containing:

(a) a program code for accessing a memory in which form condition data that identifies a form of requesting a delegated application and delegation term condition data that identifies a term of requesting said delegated application are registered so as to be related to application requester specification data that specifies an application requester and proxy applicant specification data that specifies a proxy applicant who is requested for said delegated application;

(b) a program code for recognizing that an input for specifying said application requester specification data and accessing said first electronic form, is received by said proxy applicant;

(c) a program code for inspecting whether or not the current time coincides with said delegation term condition data registered so as to be related to said application requester specification data and said proxy applicant specification data;

(d) a program code for inspecting whether or not said first electronic form adapts to said form condition data registered so as to be related to said application requester specification data and said proxy applicant specification data; and

(e) a program code for enabling said first electronic form to be acquired if results of said inspections performed for said delegation term condition data and said form condition data are acceptable.

13.   A storage medium for storing a program that acquires an electronic form, said program being executed in an electronic form system for certifying a user and containing:

(a) a program code for accessing a memory in which form condition data

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that identifies a form of requesting a delegated application is registered so as to be related to application requester specification data that specifies an application requester and proxy applicant specification data that specifies a proxy applicant who is requested for said delegated application;

(b) a program code for recognizing that an input for specifying said application requester specification data and accessing said first electronic form, is received by said proxy applicant;

(c) a program code for inspecting whether or not said first electronic form adapts to said form condition data registered so as to be related to said application requester specification data and said proxy applicant specification data; and

(d) a program code for enabling said first electronic form to be acquired if a result of said inspection performed for said form condition data is acceptable.

14.   A storage medium for storing a program that acquires an electronic form, said program being executed in an electronic form system for certifying a user and containing:

(a) a program code for accessing a memory in which delegation term condition data that identifies a term of requesting a delegated application is registered so as to be related to application requester specification data that specifies an application requester and proxy applicant specification data that specifies a proxy applicant who is requested for said delegated application;

(b) a program code for recognizing that an input for specifying said application requester specification data and accessing said first electronic form, is received by said proxy applicant;

(c) a program code for inspecting whether or not the current time adapts to said delegation term condition data registered so as to be related to said application requester specification data and said proxy applicant specification data; and

(d) a program code for enabling said first electronic form to be acquired if a result of said inspection performed for said delegation term condition data is acceptable.

15.   A storage medium in accordance with any of Claims 12 to 14, wherein said medium further includes a program code for filling personal data of said application

requester in said acquired first electronic form automatically.

16. A storage medium in accordance with any of Claims 12 to 14, wherein said medium further includes a program code for displaying a list of available electronic forms.

17. A storage medium in accordance with Claim 16, wherein said list of available electronic forms is decided according to an organization to which said application requester belongs.

18. A storage medium in accordance with Claim 16; wherein an electronic form managed by said electronic form system is related to a delegated application flag indicating whether or not said delegated application is enabled; and an electronic form is available when said delegated application flag indicates "enable."

19. A storage medium in accordance with any of Claims 12 to 18; wherein said medium for storing program further contains; a program code for transmitting a notice to an approver related to said electronic form, said notice being recognizable that said electronic form has been submitted in response to an input for directing said application after predetermined items are filled in said acquired electronic form; and a program code for transmitting a notice to said application requester, said notice being recognizable that said application has been made by said proxy applicant.

20. An electronic form acquiring method employed for an electronic form system, said method comprising the steps of:

registering form condition data that identifies a form for a delegated application and delegation term condition data that identifies a term for said delegated application, wherein said form condition data and delegation term condition data are related to application requester specification data and proxy applicant specification data, wherein said application requester specification data specifies an application requester and wherein said proxy applicant specification data specifies a proxy applicant who is requested for said delegated application; and

enabling a first electronic form to be acquired.

21.   An electronic form acquiring method in accordance with claim 20, wherein said method further includes a step of filling personal data of said application requester in said acquired first electronic form automatically.

22.   An electronic form acquiring method in accordance with claim 20, wherein said method further includes a step of displaying a list of available electronic forms.

23.   An electronic form acquiring method in accordance with claim 22, wherein said list of available electronic forms is decided according to an organization to which said application requester belongs.

24.   An electronic form acquiring method in accordance with claim 22, wherein each of said electronic forms managed by said electronic form system is related to a delegated application flag indicating whether or not said delegated application is enabled; and said electronic form is available when said delegated application flag indicates "enable."

25.   An electronic form acquiring method in accordance with any of claims 20 to 24, wherein an approver related to said electronic form receives a notice indicating that said application has been submitted and said application requester receives a notice that said application has been submitted by said proxy applicant when predetermined items are filled in said acquired electronic form and an input for directing submission of said application is made.

EVIDENCE APPENDIX

There is no evidence submitted pursuant to § 1.130, 1.131, or 1.132 or entered by the Examiner and relied upon by appellant.

RELATED PROCEEDINGS APPENDIX

There are no known decisions rendered by a court or the Board in any proceeding identified pursuant to paragraph (c)(1)(ii) of 37 CFR 41.37.

5

Ryan, Mason & Lewis, LLP
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
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FAIRFIELD, CT 06824

Receipt in the USPTO is hereby acknowledged of:

Transmittal Letter – (Original & 1 copy)
Notice of Appeal - (Original & 1 copy)
Petition for Extension of Time – (Original & 1 copy)

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JUN 2 0 2005

OIPE
JUN 2 0 2005
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

June 16, 2005
Serial No.: 09/669,598
JA919990165US1
1500-129 (KMM)

NOTICE OF APPEAL FROM THE EXAMINER TO THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES	Docket Number (Optional) JA919990165US1

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C. 20231" on June 16, 2005. Signature _Tina Maurice_ Typed or printed name Tina Maurice	In re Application of Fujino et al.

Application Number	Filed
09/669,598	September 26, 2000

For Electronic Form Acquiring Method, Electronic Form System, and Storage Medium for Storing Electronic Form Acquiring Program

Group Art Unit	Examiner
2178	Cesar B. Paula

Applicant hereby **appeals** to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences from the last decision of the examiner.

The fee for this Notice of Appeal is (37 CFR 1.17(b)) $ 500.00 .

☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. Therefore, the fee shown above is reduced by half, and the resulting fee is: $.

☐ A check in the amount of the fee is enclosed.

☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.

☐ The Commissioner has already been authorized to charge fees in this application to a Deposit Account. I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet.

☑ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0510 . I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet.

☑ A petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) (PTO/SB/22) is enclosed.

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

I am the

☐ applicant/inventor.

☐ assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71. Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96)

☑ attorney or agent of record.

☐ attorney or agent acting under 37 CFR 1.34(a). Registration number if acting under 37 CFR 1.34(a). .

Signature

Kevin M. Mason
Typed or printed name

June 16, 2005
Date

NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below*.

☐ *Total of 1 forms are submitted.